THE TIMES - VIRGINIAN

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY
IN THE HEART OF VIRGINIA'S DARK TOBACCO BELT
Appomattox, Virginia 24522
ESTABLISHED IN 1892

W. Lloyd Vaughan, J. Franklin Vaughan ..... Co-Publishers and Co-Editors
Mrs. Calvin Robinson ..... Assistant To The Editors
Mrs. Beck Hudson ..... News Editor

Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office At Appomattox, Virginia, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Address all correnspondence to The Times-Virginian, Appomattox, Virginia 24522

Subscription rates: $3.00 a year in Amherst, Appomattox, Buckingham, Campbell, Charlotte, Nelson and Prince Edward Counties, elsewhere $3.50, payable in advance.

Single Copy 10¢ Member: Virginia Press Association

County Declared Disaster Area

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ger, 60,000,000 gallons of water is still in the quarry.

BUSINESSES: eight businesses in the county were damaged by the flooding causing an estimated damage of $23,000.

AGRICULTURE: There were approximately 16 farm buildings damaged or destroyed, estimated value was set at $22,500 farm equipment damaged or destroyed was estimated at a loss of $20,000; 3000 acres of crops were lost with an estimated loss of $195,000; acreage rendered unproductive was set at 2500 acres with the damage set at $375,000 and 50 miles of fences were damaged or destroyed with an estimated damage of $25,000.

The total estimated damage in Appomattox County was set at $995,000.

WHAT IS BEING DONE? Thus far, the Small Business Bureau has offered assistance and a corps of engineers out of Norfolk, Virginia, has been here to help to evaluate damages. On Monday of this week, the County ASCS Committee and the USDA Disaster Committe met to compile reports and to file requests for Disaster County Designations and ACP Funds. The USDA Disaster Committee requested funds for restoring permanent fences, restoring pasture and hay crops, repairing dams and ponds, removal of debris from stream banks and channel clearance, shaping and grading farm lands, establishing permanent vegetation cover on problem areas cowered by flood, restoration of underground drainage systems, restoration of permanent sod waterways, and rehabilitation of permanent open drainage systems.

Making up the USDA Disaster Committee are John Alvis, Chariman of ASCS Committee; Raymond Parker, FHA Supervisor, and J. A. Smith, Extension Agent for Appomattox County.

As soon as approval is received farmers will be notified immediately.

In the State of Virginia, Appomattox County is one of the 63 counties and 25 cities declared disaster areas by President Nixon. The residents of these counties and cities will thus become eligible for federal financial assistance.

We will not attempt to name all disaster areas, but those near our county include the cities of Lynchburg, Bedford, Buena Vista, Lexington, South Boston and Farmville and the counties of Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, Buckingham, Campbell, Charlotte, Halifax, Nelson, Pittsylvania, Prince Edward and Rockbridge.

J. A. Smith, Extension Agent reported that cattle owners should check for broken or felled wild cherry trees. Cherry leaves when wilted are extremely poisonous to cattle.

ON ROUTE 618 ON THE Appomattox River, the corn was flattened by the high waters on the Hix brothers farm.

CONGRESSMAN ASSURED OF ASSISTANCE TO FLOOD VICTIMS

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he is looking into the need for additional legislation to take care of the situation. He said he feels "confident" that Congress will provide necessary additional funds to meet the new emergency and said he will "exercise whatever influence I have in behalf of the thousands of people who have lost so much in this terrible disaster."

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The Pastor Speaks

Raising Sheep - John 10:27-30

Recently one of the T.V. networks presented a short documentary on the sheep industry. Although only partially interested in it and because no other station had anything to offer, I sat down and learned a few things concerning the 20th century sheep raising. So many times in the scriptures, in both the Old and New Testaments we read about the shepherds and their sheep. How familiar is the story about the shepherd abiding with their flock when the angels announced the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. As the documentary unfolded there seemed to be great advances and new techniques of processing the wool and using great machines which are the products of this age.

But one thing has not changed. One thing has remained the same for centuries. One thing that cannot be improved or changed because it is a timeless fact. That one thing is the relationship of the shepherd and his sheep. Even today the shepherd mounts his horse and goes to the fields with his sheep. He leads them to green meadows and tender grasses of the pasture. Then as the sheep eat and rest, as nourishment and water make them grow, the shepherd watches and protects them from the enemy which would devour them. So that he can identify his sheep the shepherd puts a mark or brand on each sheep. When the grazing is over the sheep pass through the grading ramp and then are separated according to quality. things in the plan of God that have not changed. The shepherd of the Twenty - third Psalms is our Shepherd today. His work is still the same. His plan has not changed. Jesus Christ still finds his sheep and makes them his own. The Church is still the green pasture for the soul where the Christians gather together around the Word of God. Don't let the cults and the anti-Church and the other groups fool you. They say the Church has failed. They are not willing to conform the way God has set forth. They are like the rebellious sheep outside the flock going astray. Young people across the nation are seeking a way to serve God but God has already set up the way. He has given us the local Church, our place of service. There is no need for renegade religion, for the anti-Church, anti-establishment sect. The shepherd has not changed. The shepherd is the same and still uses his Church to carry out his will in this world. If young people would care for the Church instead of crying out against it, to fellowship in it instead of fighting it, to rally around it instead of rebelling against it, what a success the Church could be in this the 20th Century.

Earnie W. Lucas, Pastor
Bible Baptist Church
Appomattox, Va. 24522

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

BY LAWRENCE W. ALTHOUSE

TO SEE GOD

Lesson for July 2, 1972

Background Scripture: Job 23; 42:1-6; Hebrews 12:5-11; 1 Peter 5:6-11.
Devotional Reading: Job 40:3-14.

A few days ago a hospital patient confessed to me that there are times when he can't help but wonder where God is while he suffers. "Just sometimes," he said, "my hope seems to fade – I'm so ashamed."

I tried to help this man understand that all of us experience our doubts about our faith sometimes. We believe, but we can feel our belief slipping away and there are few of us who cannot sympathize with Job's anguished cry: "Oh, that I knew where I might find him."

Mouth Filled With Arguments

When at first he was afflicted, Job refused to abandon his faith or question what was happening to him. His friends assumed that his misfortune was the result of sins that were unknown to them. But Job knew better: there was nothing in his life that deserved the tragedy and hardship that had come upon him. He knew he was innocent, even if his friends suspected he was not.

The attitude of his friends should not surprise any of us today because we are still likely to hear people ascribe the cause of this calamity or that to some wrong-doing on the part of the victim.

Because Job knew that he was innocent, he wanted to argue with God to prove that he was right and that God had misjudged him. If he could find God, Job says, "I would lay my case before him and fill my mouth with arguments" (23:4).

Many of us are like that. We find ourselves in a situation and we try to find the reason behind the experience. Often we can do this, but there are also many times when we cannot. We must not make the mistake of thinking, as Job did, that if we cannot figure it out it is therefore irrational or unfair. Later in his own experience, Job came to realize how foolish he had been to try to argue with God. "Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know" (42:3).

"I Had Heard . . ."

Job never did understand exactly why he suffered as he did, but he came to the conclusion that there was a reason behind all this that was simply beyond his understanding. He had been brash in thinking that his reason was on a par with that of God. Instead of continuing to complain about how unreasonable and unfair his situation was, Job came to realize that there are some things which go beyond the intellect of man.

Job had discovered something far better than reason, in the depths of his suffering and despair, he had discovered the God whom previously he had known only second-hand, [illegible] like Job, it is [illegible] to see the "bottom [illegible] before we can see [illegible]

(Based on outline [illegible] ed by the Division [illegible] Education, Baptist [illegible] the Churches of Christ [illegible] U.S.A. Released by [illegible] ty Press Service.)

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